

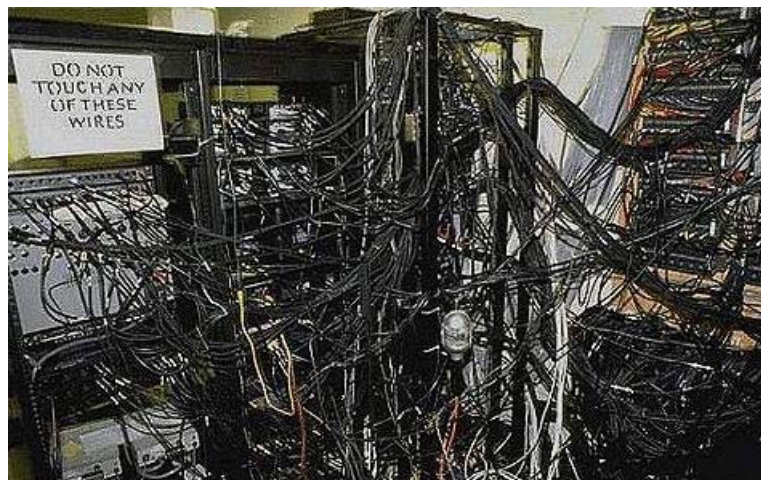


Next Club Meeting Sunday 10th February Belviour Guides Hall 6 Silva Drive West Wodonga

Latest meeting details found on club website at

<http://nevarc.org.au/>

along with past and current newsletter issues



W.I.A. John Moyle Memorial Field Day 16-17 March 2019

Start planning and prepare your radio gear now...

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WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS AFTER YOU DIE

More Facebook users will be dead than alive by 2065 if the social network keeps slowing growth. This is what happens to your Facebook, and other social media accounts, when you die.

Nobody ever really dies in the 21st century because even when your physical body leaves the world, a digital legacy is left behind. When you die, it doesn't necessarily mean your social media self dies too.

According to reports in 2016, around 8000 Facebook users die daily, the equivalent of 428 every hour.

In the first ten years of Facebook's existence, 30 million users died — with 312,500 now reportedly passing away each month.

In fact, if the social networking giant stops growing, more users will be dead than alive by 2065.

So what happens to your Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts when you die?

Although Facebook has measures in place for dead profiles, some massive social media sites will keep accounts active long after the user has died.

If a Twitter user dies, the company says it will work with a person authorised to act on the behalf of the estate — or a verified immediate family member — to have an account deactivated.

It is also possible to request the removal of a deceased user's account, but they will require a copy of ID from the person making the request and a copy of the death certificate.

However, Twitter clearly states that it will not give access to a deceased user's account regardless of his or hers relationship to the family member or friend requesting authorisation.

When it comes to Facebook, the social networking site added a new setting last year that gives users the option of having their account permanently deleted when they die.

Otherwise users can choose a friend or family member to become a "legacy contact" and take control of some aspects of their account after their death. Facebook requires proof of death before this can be activated.

Legacy contacts can post a final message on the profile before it is turned into a memorial where friends can post messages of remembrance and sympathy.

Unsuitable content can be moderated by the legacy contact.

To choose a legacy contact, users have to access settings and under the Security tab, and choose the "Legacy Contact" option that appears at the bottom.

Like Facebook, Instagram memorialises accounts, but they can't be changed and no one can log into the profile.

Posts of the deceased user will stay shared on the site and are visible to the people they were shared with, but memorialised accounts do not appear in public spaces like searches.

Instagram asks that friends and relatives get in touch via email to notify them that a user has died. The picture-sharing app asks for proof of death.

Pinterest will not hand over log in details for a dead user, but it will deactivate their account if you send an email with a list of required information, including proof of the user's death.

You must provide a copy of the user's death certificate, an obituary or a link to a news article as proof for Pinterest to deactivate the deceased user's account.

When it comes to emails, Google users can set up an "Inactive Account Manager" to delete their email account after a period of inactivity. Gmail will, however, allow a friend or relative to apply to obtain the contents of a deceased person's email.

Yahoo will let relatives and friends delete an account if they have proof of death.

Users also have the option of setting an Inactive Account Manager, which either shares or delete your account after a set period of inactivity.

But Apple work slightly differently in that iCloud and iTunes accounts are "non transferable" — meaning that any rights to information terminate when a user dies.

~Internet

Planned Future NEVARC Meeting Dates for 2019

February	Sunday	10 th
March	Sunday	10 th
April	Sunday	14 th
May	Sunday	12 th
June	Sunday	9 th
July	Sunday	14 th
August	Sunday	11 th
September	Sunday	8 th
October	Sunday	13 th
November	Sunday	10 th
December	Sunday	8 th

Just remember every 2nd Sunday of the month,
Belviour Guides Hall,
6 Silva Drive West Wodonga

Meetings commence with a BBQ (with a donation tin for meat) at 12pm with meeting afterwards.
Members are encouraged to turn up a little earlier for clubroom maintenance.
Call in Via VK3RW0, 146.975, 123 Hz tone



Why you shouldn't use your phone on the toilet



It's a germ-spreading nightmare – but that's not the only reason using your phone in the bathroom is bad for you. If you check email, reply to texts or scroll Instagram while sitting on the toilet, you're not alone in your dirty little secret.

Several recent surveys have attempted to find out how many people like to swipe and wipe... and it's a lot.

An Australian survey claimed 41 percent of us double-tap while they crap, another found 75 percent of Americans scroll before reaching for the roll, and one even put the figure at nine out of 10 people getting the scoop while they poop.

That's pretty good odds you're reading this article on the loo right now.

But germ experts say using your device on the dunny is unhygienic, and can spread illness-causing bacteria and pathogens, the same as not washing your hands.

"Even if you've only done a number one, your hands and phone are in the area where fecal bacteria hangs out, and may pick some up," Cheryl Power, a University of Melbourne expert in microbiology and immunology, told Coach.

Dr Charles Gerba, an American professor of microbiology at the University of Arizona, agrees it could easily spread germs.

"You could carry microbes right out of the toilet on your phone," Gerba said, adding that norovirus (the most common cause of viral diarrhea in humans), salmonella and E.coli are just some of the nasties you could collect on your device.

And since for many of us our phones are constant companions, you could transfer those harmful microbes straight to your dinner table, where you might continue to check your phone while eating a sandwich ... putting them straight in your mouth.

"You are always putting bacteria and viruses on and off [phones] all the time depending on what surfaces you are touching," Gerba explains.

"Cell phones have been traced to the spread of the MRSA superbug in the healthcare environment."

If you really can't bear to be without the distraction of your phone in the bathroom (be alone with my thoughts? No thanks!) at least avoid using it in public bathrooms, which are probably less sanitary than your bathroom at home, and carry anti-bacterial wipes to clean your phone before you go back out into the world.

There's another reason to rethink using your phone on the toilet: it changes the way you poo.

As Dr. Partha Nandi recently told Thrillist, the distraction can cause us to spend longer sitting on the toilet, which is really bad for your bum and bowels.

"When you stay on the toilet for upwards of 20, 30, 40 minutes, you're putting unnecessary pressure on the rectum, [which] can cause hemorrhoids, and definitely make any pre-existing hemorrhoids way worse," Nandi said.

"By prolonging this pressure on the rectum, you can exacerbate gastrointestinal issues, and a problem that is moderate, like going too much or too little, can become very severe."

Just another reason to make your bathroom a no-phone zone.

Experts continually tell us to practice mindfulness in this busy modern world, and that you don't have to sit cross-legged to do it: mindfulness is effective if practiced for as little as 10 minutes a day during activities such as walking, driving or showering.

So should we embrace the mindful poo? Maybe it's time to start a movement.

"Science" and "shit" both come from the ancient word "skheid," meaning to "separate" or "divide."

Raspberry Pi Pi-Hole: A Network Wide Ad-blocker

A network-wide ad blocker works by acting as your DNS server.

What the network-wide ad blocker does is act as your DNS server.

Your computers and routers will connect to it for DNS requests.

These DNS requests will then be filtered by the Raspberry Pi.

Any DNS requests that match any that match a known ad host will be rejected meaning the connection will never meet your computer.

Therefore the ad will never be loaded by the devices.

Network-wide ad blocking is a useful tool for stopping ads from appearing on devices that don't have any easy to use adblock tool. It's also a handy way to improve your network performance and bandwidth usage as the number of files downloaded during normal web browsing will be reduced.

It also has the added side effect of potentially improving the security and the privacy of your network, as some sites use relatively dodgy ad providers.

You can install the Pi-hole on other operating systems other than Raspbian. They have support for Ubuntu, Debian, Fedora, and CentOS 7 (Non-ARM).

Equipment List

Below are all the pieces of equipment

Recommended:

Raspberry Pi 2 or 3

Micro SD Card

Power Supply

Ethernet Cord (Recommended) or Wifi dongle (Pi 3 has Wifi inbuilt)

Optional:

Raspberry Pi Case

Installing the Network-Wide Ad Blocking Software

1. To set up our network-wide adblocker, we are going to utilize a piece of software called Pi-hole. Pi-hole is a software package that handles everything. It sets up the DNS server, handles all the DNS requests and filters them.

It also provides a fancy web frontend to the whole system, allowing you to see the statistics in real time and make changes to the Pi-hole configuration, including whitelisting or blacklisting specific URLs. The Pi-hole web server is automatically installed so you don't need to do any extra installation.

Another advantage to utilizing Pi-hole is that it has an easy to use installer. Meaning we don't have to mess around with trying to install and configure several different packages.

We can run this single command to download and run the install script.

While we know Pi-hole is safe, if you want to check the script that we will be running yourself, go to the Pi hole install website in your favorite web browser.

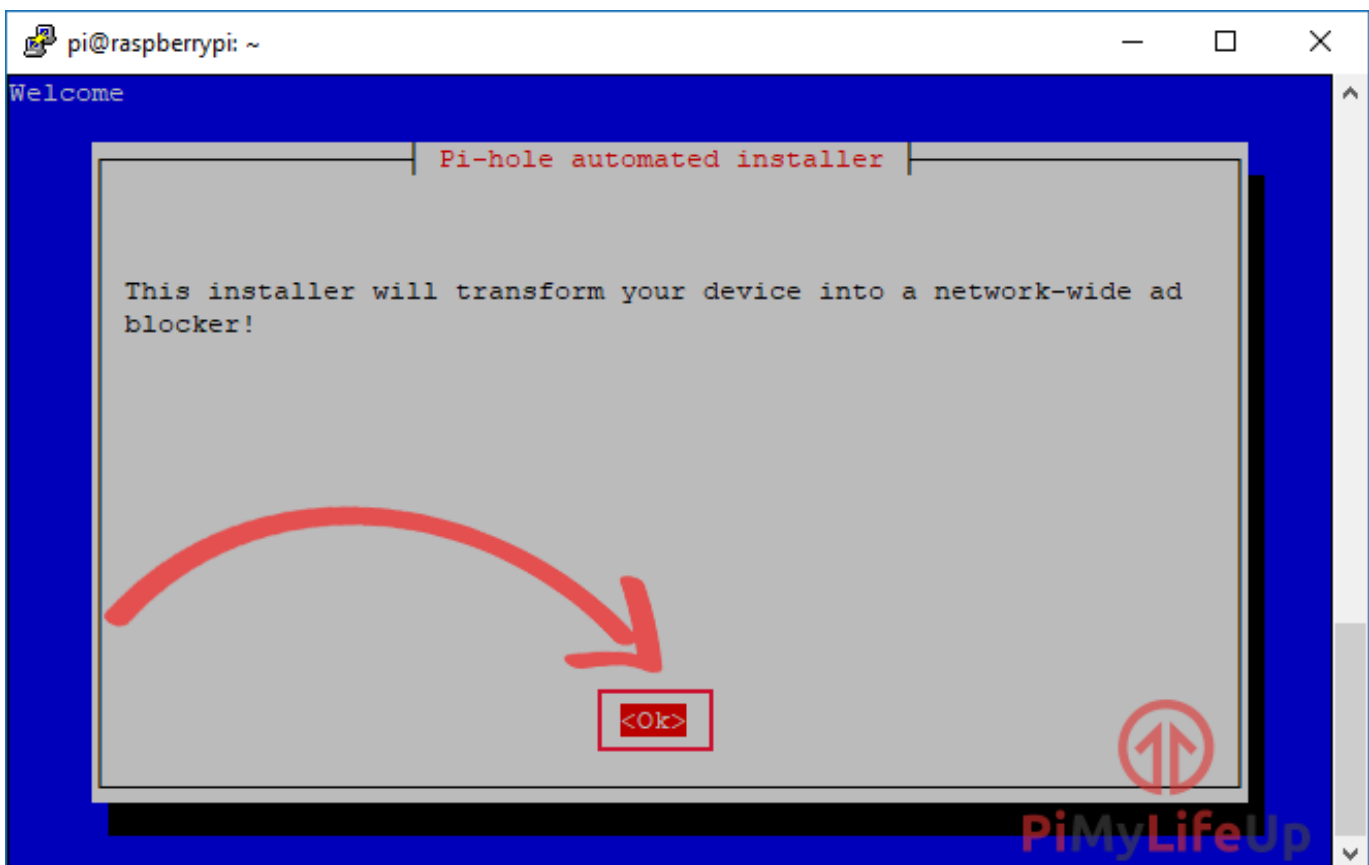
<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/pi-hole/pi-hole/master/automated%20install/basic-install.sh>

```
curl -sSL https://install.pi-hole.net | bash
```

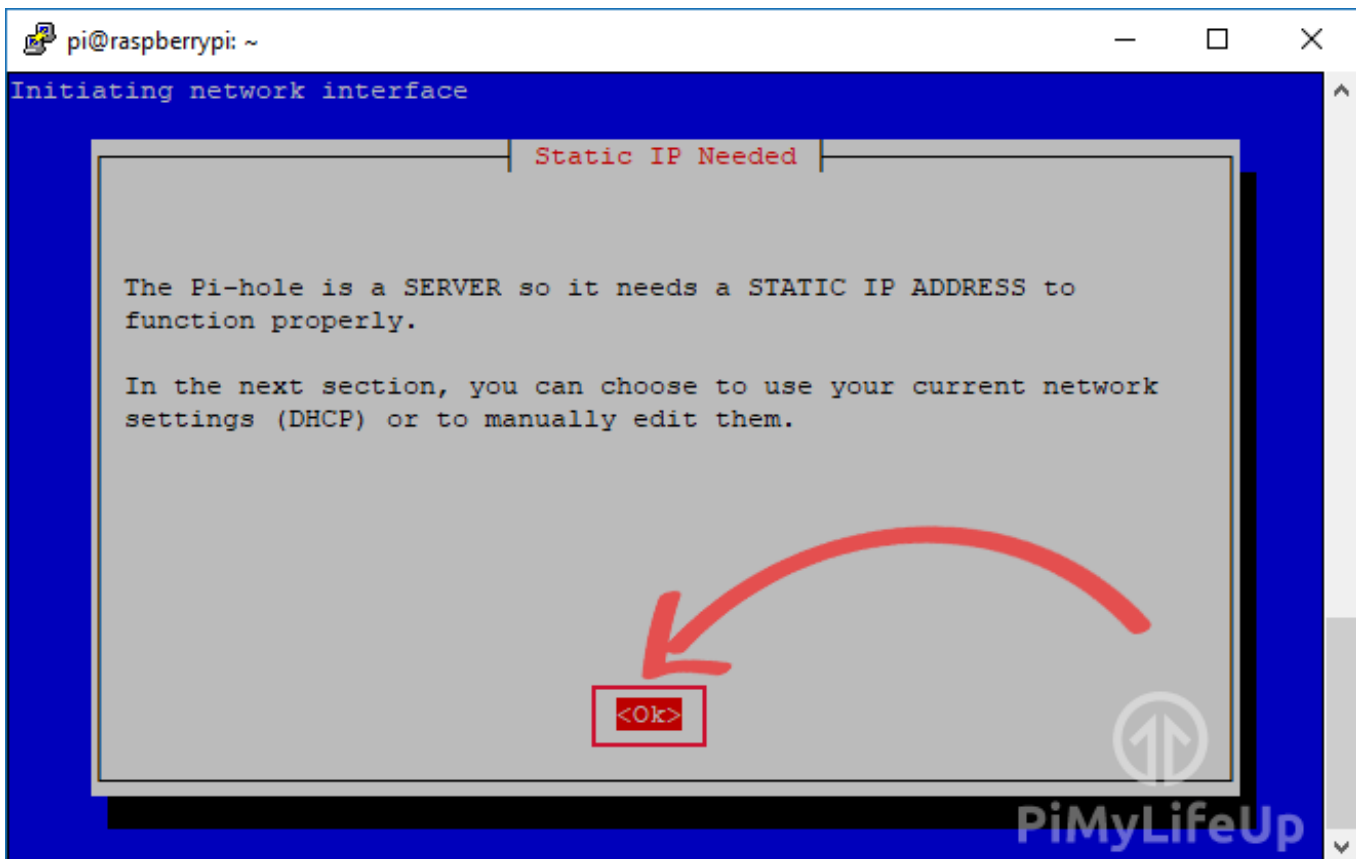
2. Once you have run the command, it will download and run the script that begins the process of setting up your device for Pi-hole. A few of the tasks it does is verify the amount of available free disk space, update the package list, and several other things.

```
pi@raspberrypi: ~  
pi@raspberrypi:~ $ curl -sSL https://install.pi-hole.net | bash  
:::  
::: Script called with non-root privileges. The Pi-hole installs server packages  
and configures  
::: system networking, it requires elevated rights. Please check the contents of  
the script for  
::: any concerns with this requirement. Please be sure to download this script f  
rom a trusted source.  
:::  
::: Detecting the presence of the sudo utility for continuation of this install.  
..  
::: Utility sudo located.  
:::  
::: You are root.  
::: Verifying free disk space...  
:::  
::: Updating local cache of available packages...█
```

3. Once you have run this command, it will begin the setup of Pi-hole, after a few initial setup steps you will be greeted with the following install screen.
Just select **ok** to the next few screens to proceed.



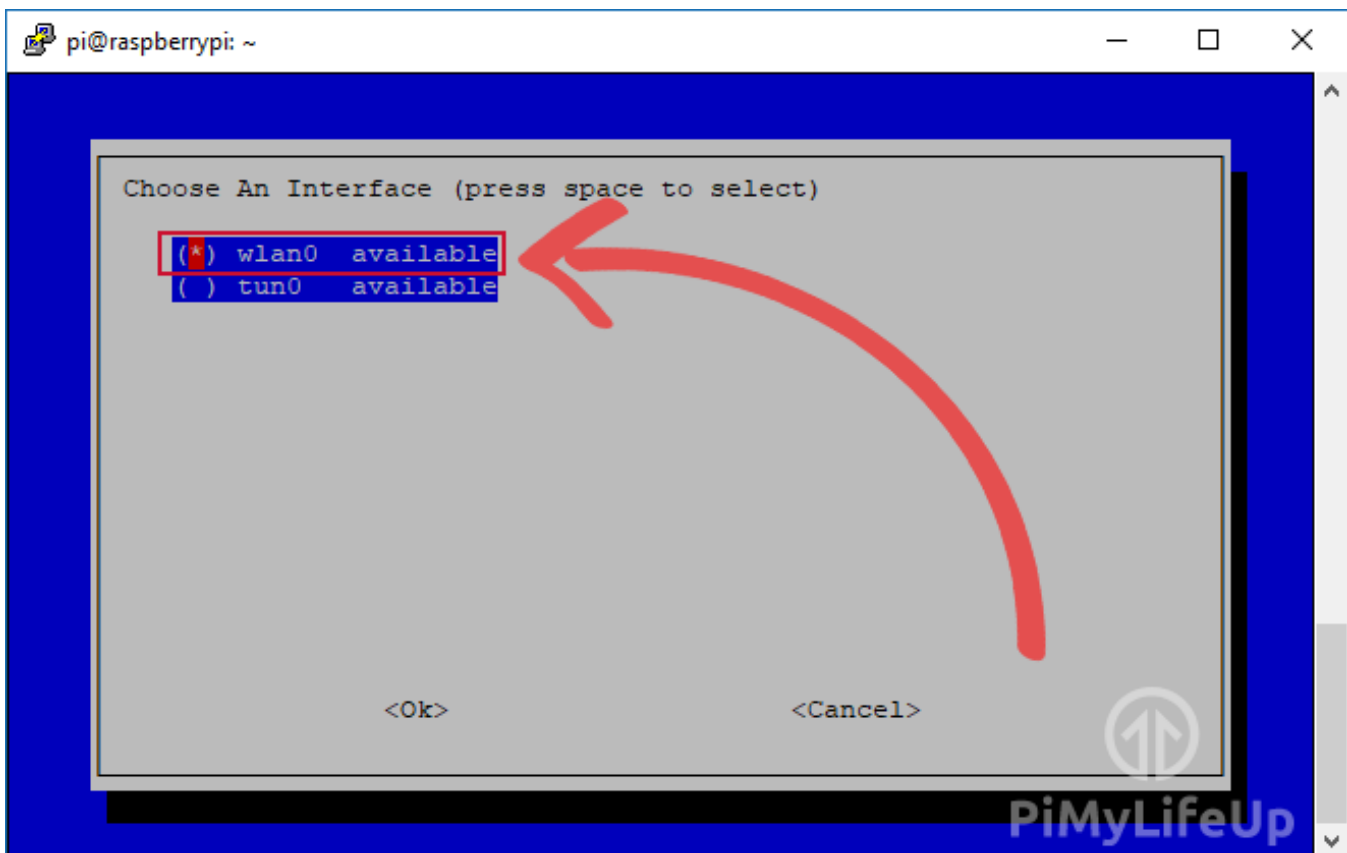
4. The next important screen to pay attention to is the one below.
This screen is warning you that Pi-hole will need a static IP address to function correctly.



5. Now we need to select the interface we want Pi-hole to operate over.

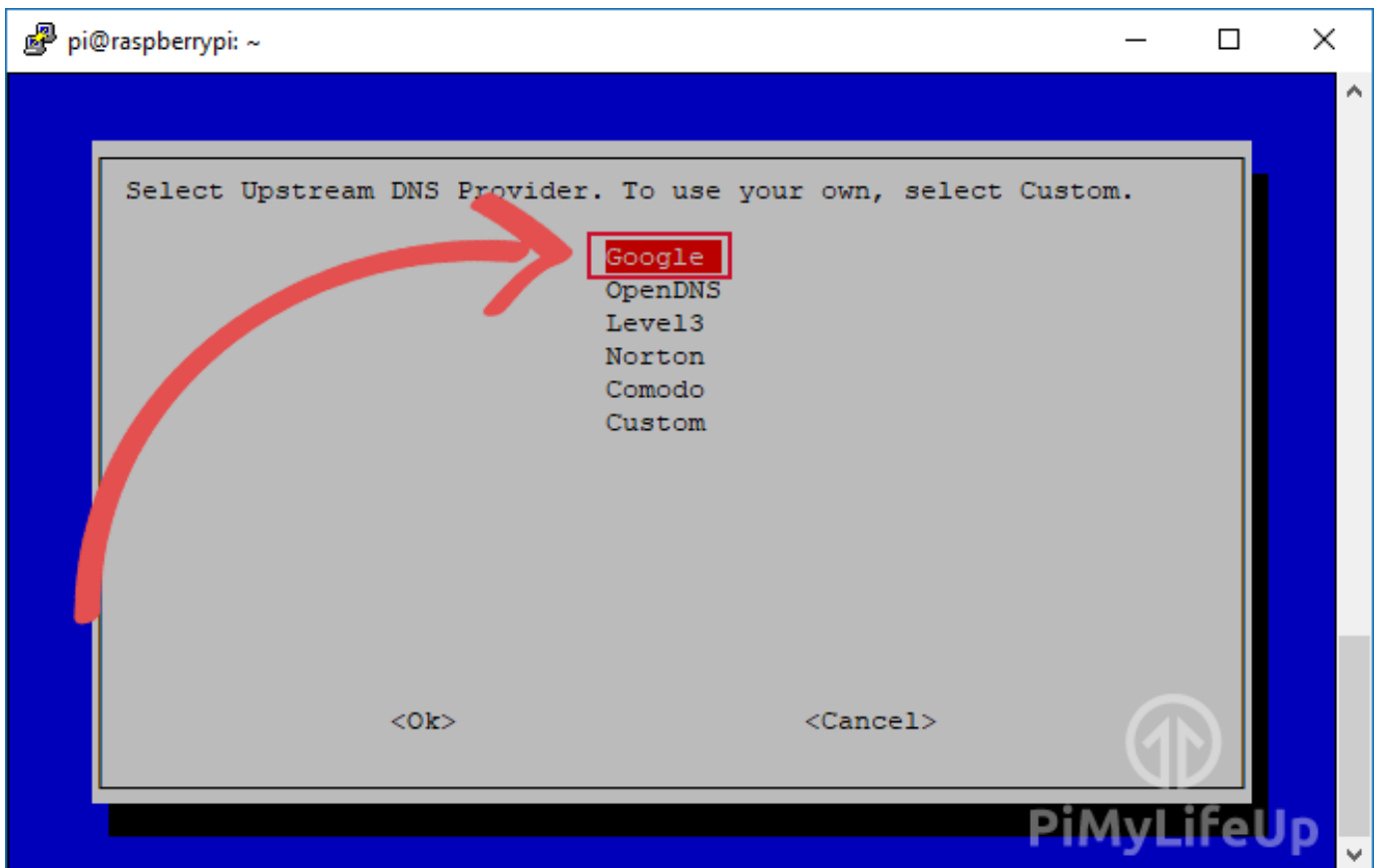
In our case, we are going to select **wlan0** if you are going to choose a different option, use the **arrow keys** to move to that option and press **Space** to select it.

If you are happy with your selection press **Enter** to proceed.



6. Now we have to select the Upstream DNS provider we want to use. We are going to just stick to using Google as it is one of the most reliable DNS providers.

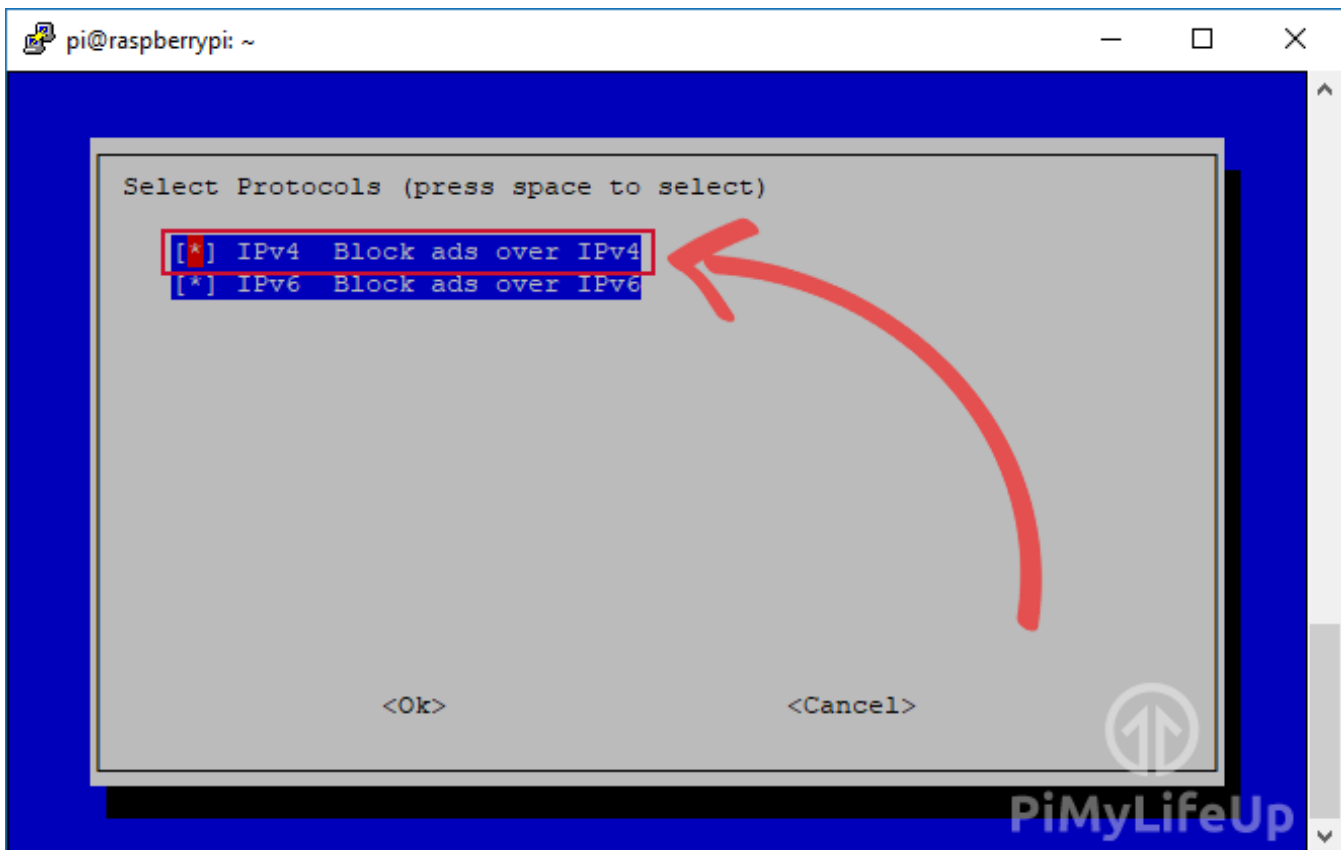
Press **Enter** when you are happy with your choice.



7. Now we have to select the protocols we want to utilize. It's usually best just to leave both options enabled. Press **Enter** to continue.



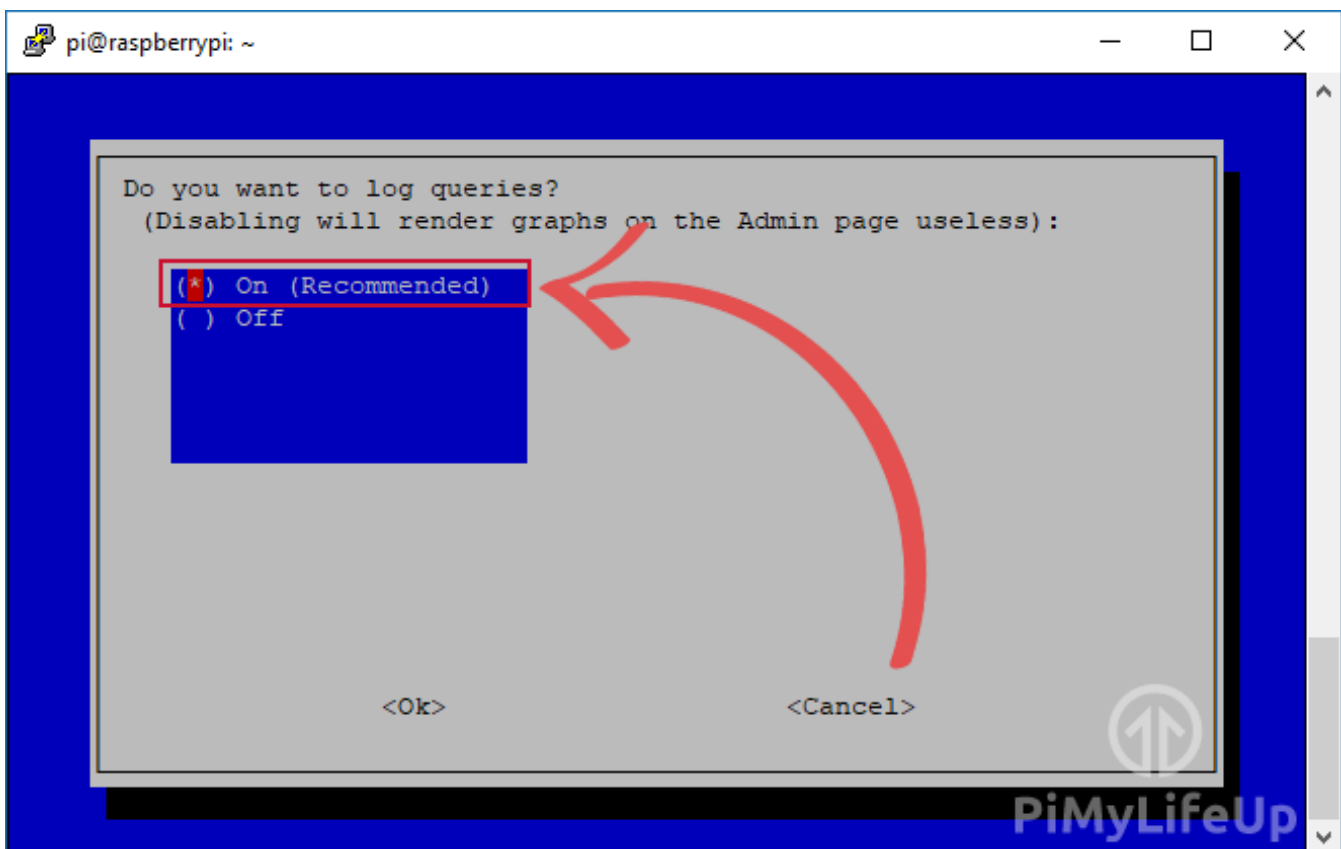
8. You will now be asked if you want to use your current networks settings as a static address. If you are happy with the information displayed then select to the next two screens continue.



9. Here you can disable the logging abilities of Pi-hole.

However, we recommend keeping it on as it allows you to keep track of everything that Pi-hole is doing and gives you some neat statistics.

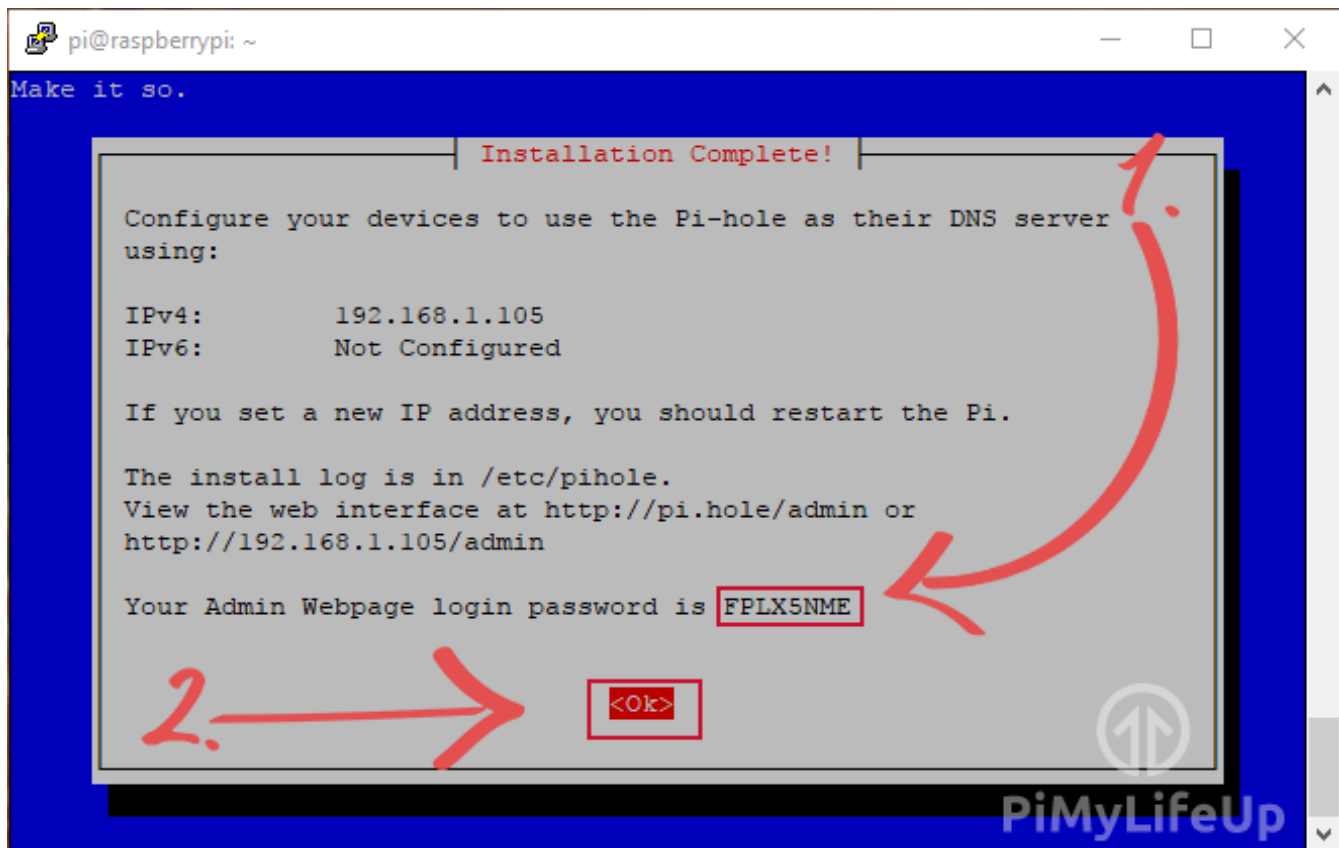
Press **Enter** to continue.



10. That is the end of everything that needs configuring, after the installation screen you will be presented with this final screen.

Make sure you write down the password displayed on the screen (1.)

Once done press **Enter** to continue (2.)



Connecting your Network to the Raspberry Pi Pi-hole

There are two different methods for setting up the network-wide ad-blocker on your network.

The first of these two options is the easiest and will extend the coverage of the network-wide ad-blocker to all your devices. This option is to change your router's DNS settings to point towards the Raspberry Pi.

We recommend this for setting up the network-wide ad blocker.

The second is to set the DNS setting for each of your devices, this is more difficult to setup and something you must do every time you add a new device to your network, but can be useful if you only want specific devices running through the adblocker.

Setting Routers DNS Settings

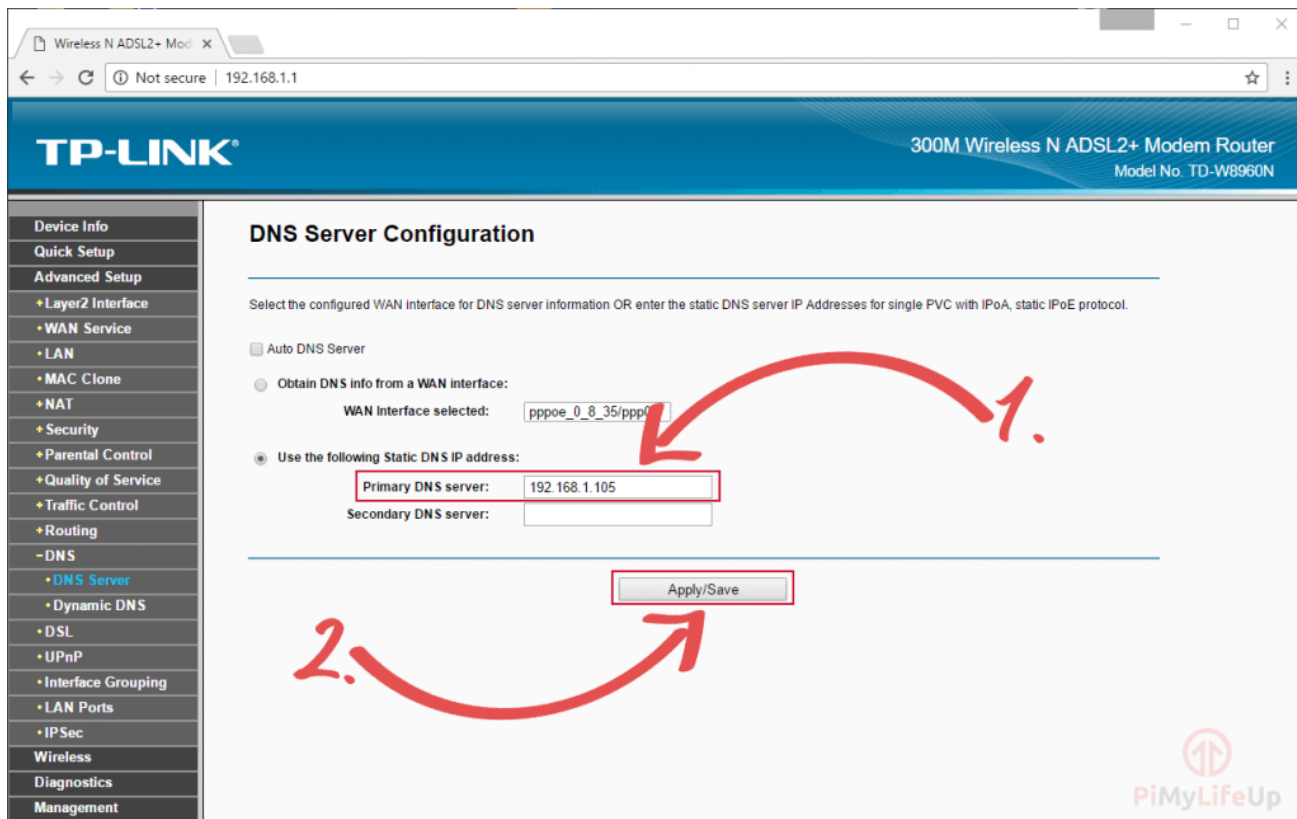
Changing the DNS settings is different for every router, but we will go through the steps we used for our router. First, we need to go to the router's admin page, most routers reside on the **http://192.168.1.1** local IP address.

If you are asked for a username and password but are unsure of what it is, then try using **admin** for the username and **admin** for the password.

Once you are logged in, look for anything mentioning **DNS server**, or **DHCP server**. For my **TD-W8960N** router, these resided under "**Advanced Setup**" then under "**DNS**" then "**DNS Server**".

Within this screen, set the primary DNS server to the IP address of your Raspberry Pi, for instance, mine is **192.168.1.105**.

Make sure it is the only DNS server that is set, as it handles all upstream DNS services itself, and adding alternatives could break the functionality of the ad blocker.



Setting individual Devices DNS settings

Below we go into detail all the steps to setting up the DNS settings on different devices and operating systems. These methods are perfect if you want to set it per device rather than setting it on your router.

Windows DNS Settings

DNS settings are specified in the TCP/IP Properties window for the selected network connection.

1. Go to the **Control Panel**
2. Click **Network and Internet > Network and Sharing Center > Change adapter settings**
3. Select the connection for which you want to configure
4. Right-click **Local Area Connection > Properties**
5. Select the **Networking** tab
6. Select **Internet Protocol Version 4 (TCP/IPv4)** or **Internet Protocol Version 6 (TCP/IPv6)**
7. Click **Properties**
8. Click **Advanced**
9. Select the **DNS** tab
10. Click **OK**
11. Select **Use the following DNS server addresses**
12. Replace those addresses with the IP addresses of your Pi
13. Restart the connection you selected in **Step 3**
14. Repeat the procedure for additional network connections you want to change.

Linux DNS Settings

In most modern Linux distributions, DNS settings are configured through Network Manager.

1. Click **System > Preferences > Network Connections**
2. Select the connection for which you want to configure
3. Click **Edit**
4. Select the **IPv4 Settings** or **IPv6 Settings** tab
5. If the selected method is **Automatic (DHCP)**, open the drop-down and select **Automatic (DHCP) addresses only** instead. If the method is set to something else, do not change it.
6. In the **DNS servers** field, enter your Pi's **IP address**
7. Click **Apply** to save the change
8. Repeat the procedure for additional network connections you want to change.
9. If your distribution doesn't use Network Manager, your DNS settings are specified in **/etc/resolv.conf**.

Mac OS X DNS Settings

1. Click **Apple > System Preferences > Network**
2. Highlight the connection for which you want to configure DNS
3. Click **Advanced**
4. Select the **DNS** tab
5. Click + to replace any listed addresses with, or add, your Pi's IP addresses at the top of the list:
6. Click **Apply > OK**

iPhone DNS Settings

1. From the iPhone's home screen, tap **Settings**.
2. Tap **Wi-Fi**. The available wireless networks in range of your iPhone should appear.
3. Find your wireless network in the list, and then **tap the arrow**.
4. Tap the **DNS field**.
5. Delete the current DNS servers, and enter your Raspberry Pi's IP Address.

PS3 DNS Settings

1. Go to **Settings**
2. Go to **Network Settings**
3. In here then select **Internet Connection Settings**
4. Now we need to choose **Custom**
5. Set all your options until you get to the screen displaying your IP address and DNS settings.
6. Set DNS Settings to **manual**.
7. Now set your primary DNS to the IP address of your Raspberry Pi Pi-Hole.

PS4 DNS Settings

1. Go to **Settings**
2. Go to **Network**
3. Go to **Set up Internet connection**
4. Select **WiFi/LAN** depending on what you use to connect.
5. Select **Custom**
6. Set **DNS Settings** to **Manual**
7. Set the **Primary DNS** to the IP address of your Raspberry Pi, and make sure the secondary DNS is empty.

Wii U DNS Settings

1. From the **Wii U Menu**, select "**System Settings**."
2. Select the **Internet** Icon
3. Tap **Connections** in the top right corner.
4. Select the connection you wish to configure.
5. Tap "**Change Settings**."
6. Select **Primary DNS Server**
7. Tap the arrow on the right and select "**DNS**."
8. Tap "**Don't Auto-Obtain**" and enter the DNS info as follows:
9. Tap "**Confirm**" to return to the manual settings screen.
10. To save these settings, select "**Save**" or press the **B Button**, and then select "**Save**"

Xbox 360 DNS Settings

1. In the **Settings** tab select **System**
2. Now select **Network Settings**
3. Choose the network you are currently using.
4. Select **Configure Network**
5. Highlight and select **DNS Settings**
6. Select **Primary DNS Server**
7. Select **Manual**.
8. Now enter the IP address of your Raspberry Pi, and then select **done**.
9. Repeat the procedure for additional network connections you want to change.

Xbox One DNS Settings

1. Go to the **Dashboard**.
2. Press the **options** button on the controller.
3. Go to **Network**.
4. Go to **Advanced Settings**.
5. Select **Manual**.
6. Enter the **Primary DNS Server** as the IP address of your Raspberry Pi.
7. Press **B** to save the new settings
8. Restart the Xbox One.
9. Repeat the procedure for additional network connections you want to change.

A Quick Look into the Pi-hole Web Interface

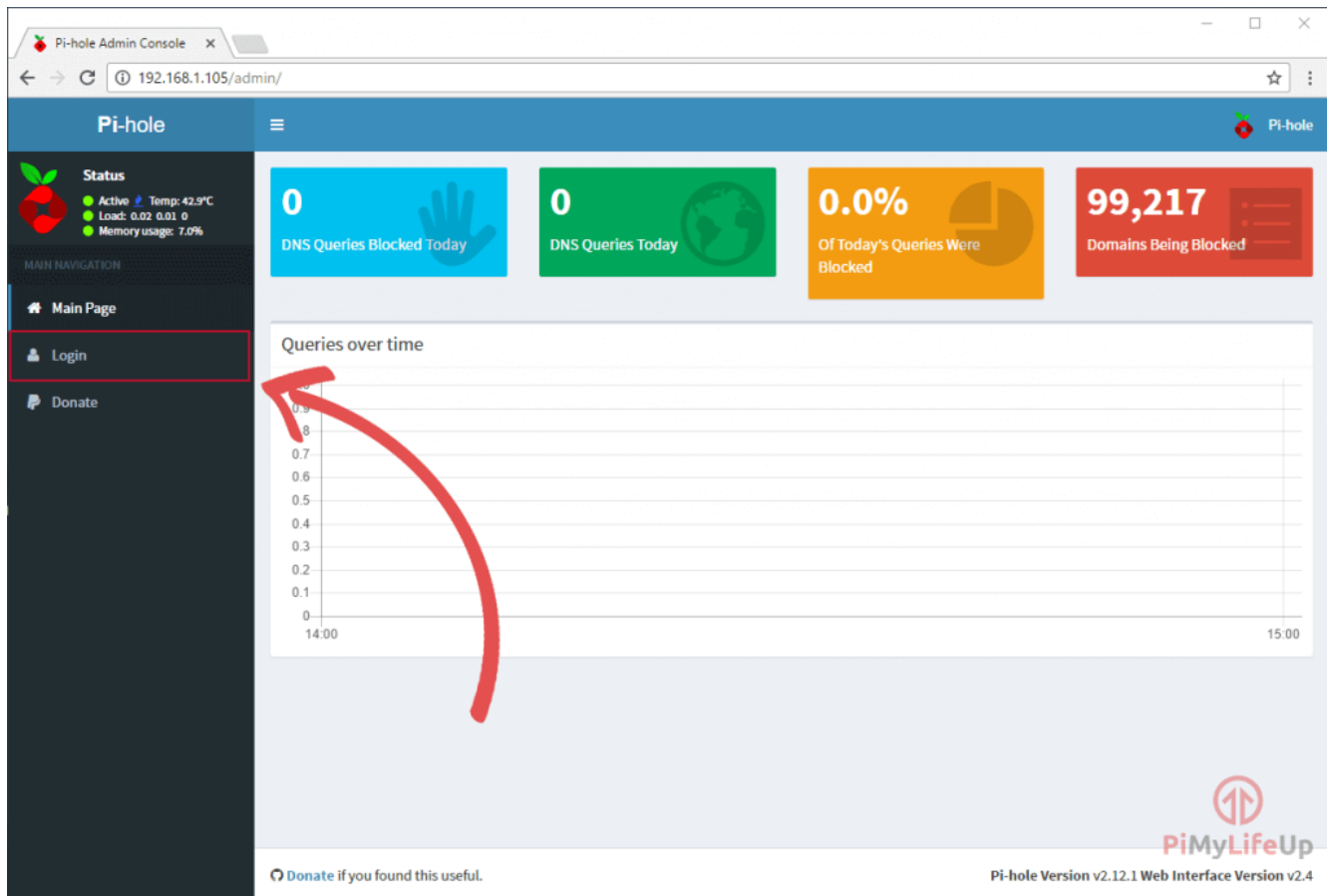
1. To get to The Raspberry Pi Pi-hole web interface, all we need to do is go to the following web address in your favorite web browser.

Make sure you swap out **192.168.1.105** with the IP address that was displayed in the last step of the previous section.

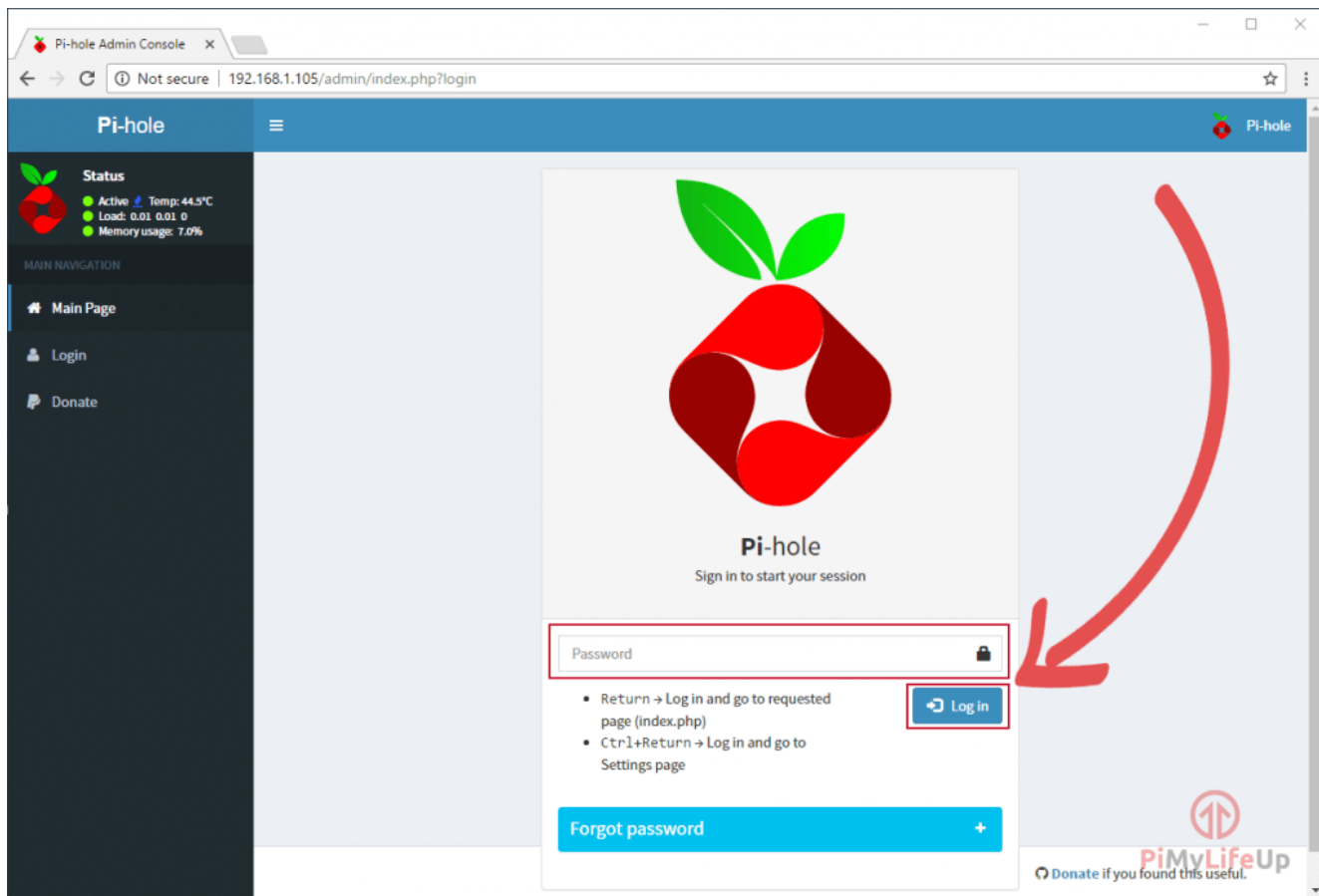
<http://192.168.1.105/admin/>

2. You will be greeted with the following screen, at the moment this will not show any real stats as we haven't hooked it up to anything.

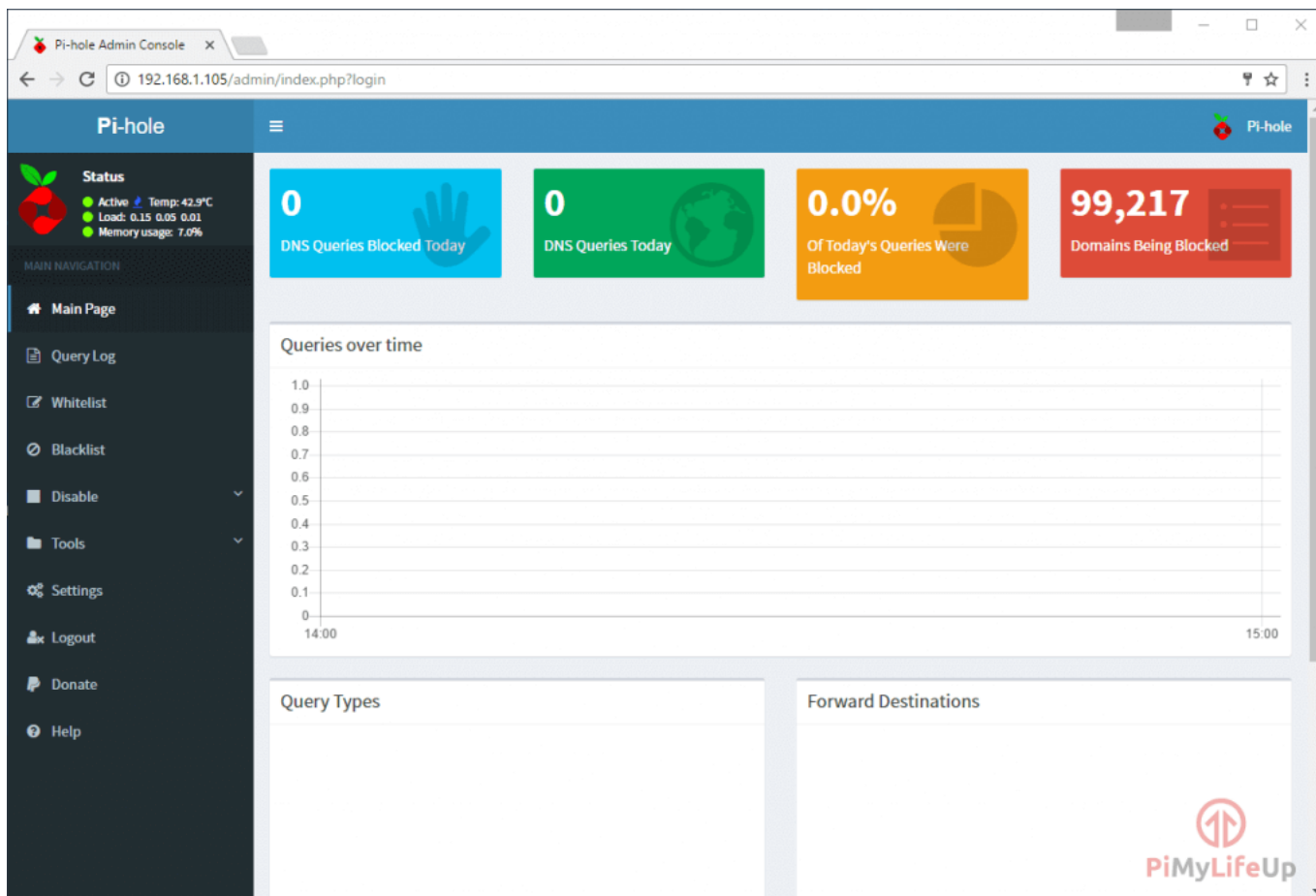
For now, let's just go straight to the Login page, you can find this by clicking "**Login**" in the sidebar.



3. On here you need to enter the password that you got at the end of the installation of Pi-hole to log in.



4. You will now be presented with the admin dashboard. This dashboard is just like the normal one with a couple more graphs. Below we will go through all the available options.



- Query Log – The query log shows all the most recent queries that have been made to the DNS server. It is an easy way to find a recent address that may have been loaded and blacklist them.

- **Whitelist** – This screen allows you to add certain domain names to Pi-hole's whitelist. This whitelist means those websites will no longer be blocked by the DNS server. However, if that domain is blocked by a wildcard, then it will continue to be blocked.
- **Blacklist** – This screen allows you to add certain domain names into Pi-hole's blacklist, this means those websites will be blocked by the DNS server.
- **Disable** – These options allow you to temporarily or permanently disable the blocking functionality of Pi-hole, it will continue to function as a normal DNS server while disabled but will no longer block DNS requests.

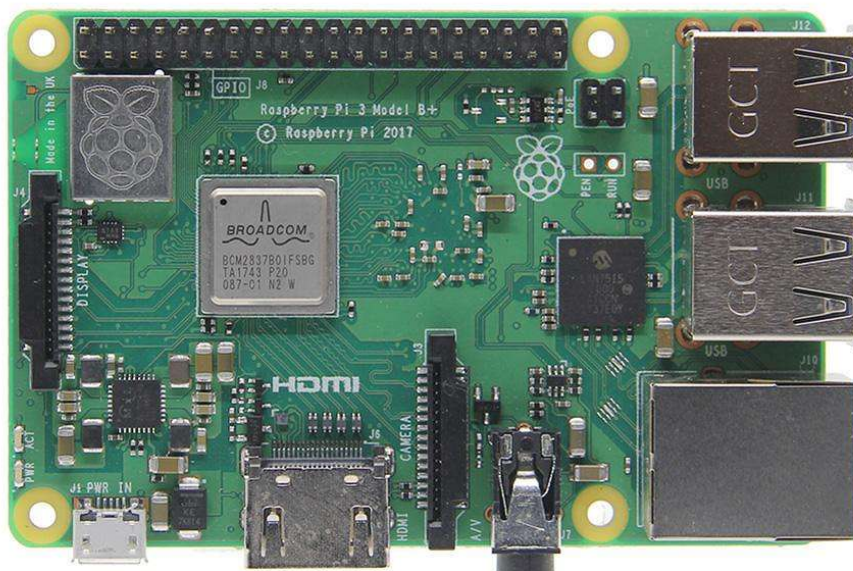
Tools

- **Update Lists** -This tool allows you to trigger an update of the ad blocking lists, it is useful for ensuring you are running the latest versions of the ad block lists.
- **Query Adlists** – This tool allows you to find out if a certain URL is being included in the ad blocking lists, it is useful for checking why a certain URL might be getting blocked.
- **Tail pihole.log** – This tool shows the last lines of the *pihole.log* file and continually updates live, this is useful for checking to see what Pi-hole is doing to requests.
- **Settings** – This section contains some configurable settings, this allows you to change the way your DNS works, what upstream DNS providers you want to use among several other options. You can even enable DNSSEC in the options.

For the average user, you will not need to change these options unless you made a mistake in the initial installation.

If you love your privacy, then other Pi projects might take your fancy.

Something like the VPN access point is great if you want to add an option for people to hook into a VPN by simply joining a WiFi access point.



Raspberry Pi 3 Model B+ Board

~Internet

Raspberry Pi 3A+ / 3B+ spec comparison

At its heart, the Pi 3A+ is literally a cut-down version of the Pi 3B+. It has the same Broadcom BCM2837B0 system-on-chip (SoC) roughly in the centre of the board, hidden under a metal heat-spreader, which runs at the same 1.4GHz frequency. While 512MB of RAM is less than the 1GB of a Pi 3B+, the smaller 3A+ can certainly hold its own. Looking back at the original Pi A+, it's hard to imagine they're from the same family: from a single-core 32-bit 700MHz processor and no networking to a quad-core 64-bit 1.4GHz processor with built-in wireless LAN and Bluetooth, the 3A+ should prove a serious upgrade for users of its predecessor.

Raspberry Pi 3A+ specifications

SoC: Broadcom BCM2837B0 quad-core A54 (ARMv8) 64-bit @ 1.4GHz

GPU: Broadcom VideoCore IV

Networking: 2.4GHz and 5GHz 802.11b/g/n/ac wireless LAN

RAM: 512MB LPDDR2 SDRAM

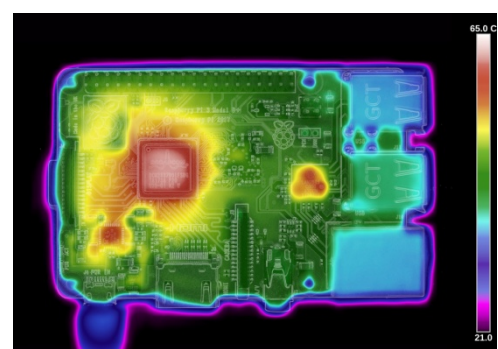
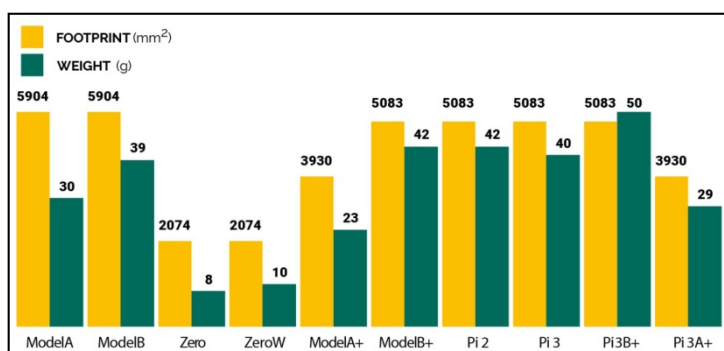
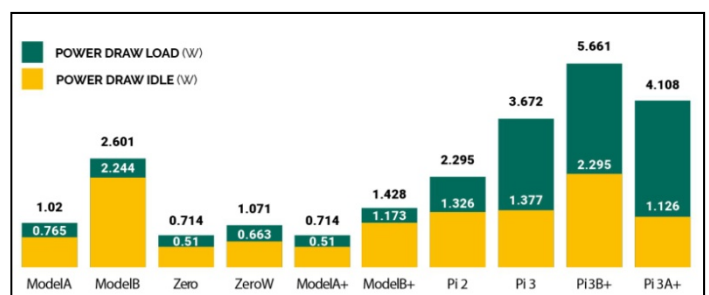
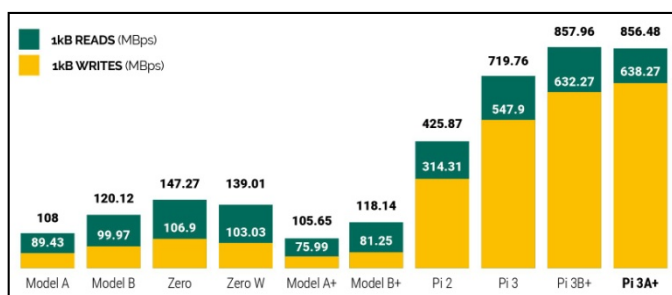
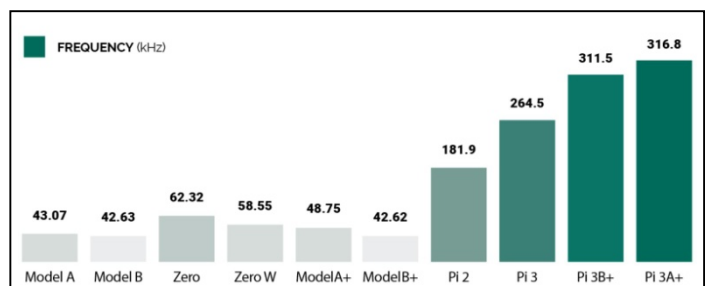
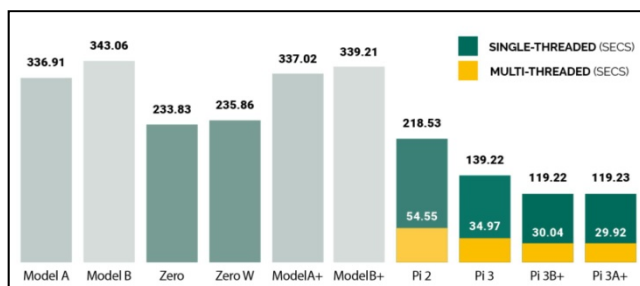
Bluetooth: Bluetooth 4.2, Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE)

GPIO: 40-pin GPIO header, populated

Storage: microSD

Ports: HDMI, 3.5 mm analogue audio-video jack, 1x USB 2.0, Camera Serial Interface (CSI), Display Serial Interface (DSI)

Dimensions: 67×56×11.5 mm



Raspberry Pi 3B+ thermal image

Researchers shut down AI that invented its own language



An artificial intelligence system being developed at Facebook has created its own language. It developed a system of code words to make communication more efficient. Researchers shut the system down when they realized the AI was no longer using English.

The observations made at Facebook are the latest in a long line of similar cases. In each instance, an AI being monitored by humans has diverged from its training in English to develop its own language. The resulting phrases appear to be nonsensical gibberish to humans but contain semantic meaning when interpreted by AI "agents."

Negotiating in a new language

As Fast Co. Design reports, Facebook's researchers recently noticed its new AI had given up on English. The advanced system is capable of negotiating with other AI agents so it can come to conclusions on how to proceed. The agents began to communicate using phrases that seem unintelligible at first but actually represent the task at hand.

In one exchange illustrated by the company, the two negotiating bots, named Bob and Alice, used their own language to complete their exchange. Bob started by saying "I can i i everything else," to which Alice responded "balls have zero to me to me to me..." The rest of the conversation was formed from variations of these sentences.

While it appears to be nonsense, the repetition of phrases like "i" and "to me" reflect how the AI operates. The researchers believe it shows the two bots working out how many of each item they should take. Bob's later statements, such as "i i can i i i everything else," indicate how it was using language to offer more items to Alice. When interpreted like this, the phrases appear more logical than comparable English phrases like "I'll have three and you have everything else."

English lacks a "reward"

The AI apparently realised that the rich expression of English phrases wasn't required for the scenario. Modern AIs operate on a "reward" principle where they expect following a sudden course of action to give them a "benefit." In this instance, there was no reward for continuing to use English, so they built a more efficient solution instead.

"Agents will drift off from understandable language and invent code-words for themselves," Fast Co. Design reports Facebook AI researcher Dhruv Batra said. "Like if I say 'the' five times, you interpret that to mean I want five copies of this item. This isn't so different from the way communities of humans create shorthands."

AI developers at other companies have observed a similar use of "shorthands" to simplify communication. At OpenAI, the artificial intelligence lab founded by Elon Musk, an experiment succeeded in letting AI bots learn their own languages.

AI language translates human ones

In a separate case, Google recently improved its Translate service by adding a neural network. The system is now capable of translating much more efficiently, including between language pairs that it hasn't been explicitly taught. The success rate of the network surprised Google's team. Its researchers found the AI had silently written its own language that's tailored specifically to the task of translating sentences.

If AI-invented languages become widespread, they could pose a problem when developing and adopting neural networks. There's not yet enough evidence to determine whether they present a threat that could enable machines to overrule their operators.

They do make AI development more difficult though as humans cannot understand the overwhelmingly logical nature of the languages. While they appear nonsensical, the results observed by teams such as Google Translate indicate they actually represent the most efficient solution to major problems.

~Internet

Victorian pub bans lemon, lime and bitters for children after tough new state crackdown



An Aussie pub says it has been forced to take the extraordinary step of banning a popular drink for children — and people are not happy. The Panton Hill Hotel — a family-friendly country pub in Melbourne’s northeast — made the decision over fears it may be penalised as tougher new alcohol rules come into effect across the state.

It means that pubs, bars and restaurants in Victoria are now banned from selling liquor to a minor for consumption on licensed premises under any circumstances. Previously, children could consume alcohol on licensed premises while eating a meal if in the company of a parent or guardian. The hotel’s duty manager, Lynda Hunter, said that, because the bitters component of lemon, lime and bitters was alcoholic, it was “too risky” to sell the popular drink to minors. “It is to safeguard ourselves from a penalty. The way we make it, it is no longer just a couple of drops of bitters.”

However, the new rule has not gone down well with everybody and it has even prompted abuse from some customers, who said it was “ridiculous”. A Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation spokeswoman said the minor addition of bitters to a soft drink usually doesn’t constitute as liquor but depended on the amount added. Despite the backlash from Panton Hill Hotel customers, new research shows most parents support tougher restrictions on alcohol supply to underage teenagers. VicHealth research released on Thursday shows 60 per cent of parents believed there were no circumstances where other parents of adults should supply alcohol to underage teens at parties.

VicHealth chief executive Jerri Rechter welcomed the tough new changes. “Our research clearly shows that parents want to be in charge of when, where and how much their kids drink. We all want our kids to come home safe from parties, we want parents to understand that under the new law they are responsible for the wellbeing of teenagers if they host a party with alcoholic drinks.” The research shows parents were unsure about the harm from alcoholic drinks can cause their teenage children. It also showed that they were unsure how best to introduce them to drinking — with only 37 per cent of parents understanding it was best not to supply teenagers with alcohol to protect them from harm.



More liquor licensing laws are expected to come into effect in Victoria on March 1.

~Internet

7 times drunks decided the course of battle

Historians always want to talk about how battles were won with a general's brilliance or a unit's bravery. Sometimes they are, but sometimes they are decided in somewhat less elegant ways. For instance, here are seven times alcohol played a major role in the outcomes:

1. A German officer loses key bridges on D-Day because he got drunk with his girlfriend



Photo: British Army Sgt. Christie

In his book, "Pegasus Bridge," Stephen E. Ambrose of "Band of Brothers" fame details the night of drinking German Major Hans Schmidt had before his unit was attacked by British Paratroopers. His men were guarding two key bridges over the river Orne, and he was supposed to order their destruction if the allies came close to capturing them. The bridges were wired with explosives and could have been destroyed instantly with an order from Schmidt.

But, Schmidt was drinking the night of the attack and wasn't there to give the order. When he sobered up, he tried to get to the battlefield and accidentally rode past the British lines. He was captured with his driver and the British held the bridges, protecting Allied paratroopers from a German counterattack.

2. A nearly crushed army survives because an enemy commander is too drunk to attack



Photo: Wikimedia Commons/Kurz & Allison

On Dec. 31, 1862, the first day of the Battle of Stone River, the Confederate Army attacked the Union near Murfreesboro, Tennessee. General Braxton Bragg's battle plan worked nearly as designed and thousands of Union soldiers were captured.

The attack would've been more successful, but Maj. Gen Benjamin F. Cheatham's brigades were severely late and disorganized after the drunk Cheatham fell from his horse while rallying his troops.

The Union Army nearly retreated, but the generals decided they had just enough troops left to hold the position, troops they likely wouldn't have had if Cheatham had attacked as planned.

The Federal soldiers held it together for two days before Union artillery wiped out 1,800 Confederates in less than an hour on Jan. 2, 1863.

The Union gained the momentum and won the battle.

3. Ulysses S. Grant's entire military career

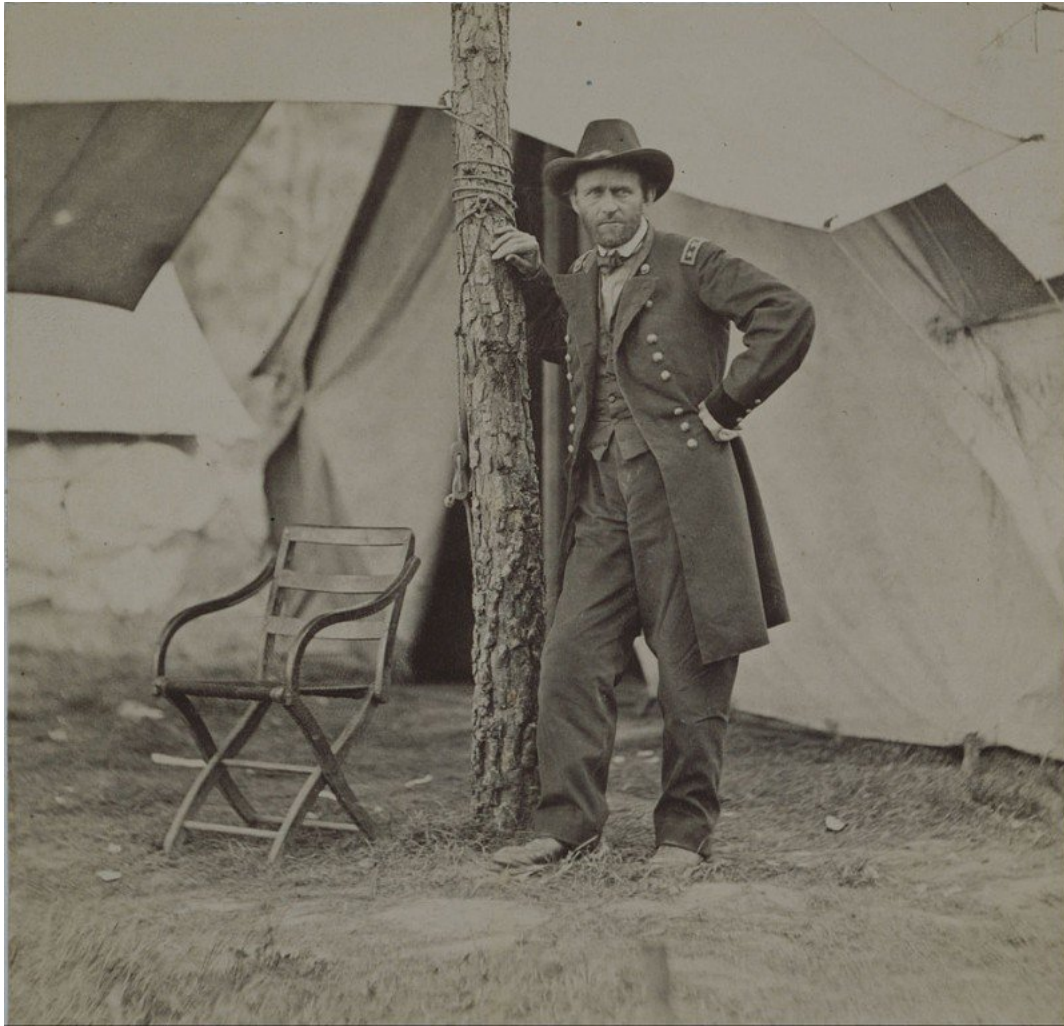


Photo: Wikimedia Commons/Mathew B. Brady

Ulysses S. Grant had a well-documented alcohol problem, but historians think it may have actually made his career. James McPherson won a Pulitzer Prize for his book, "Battle Cry of Freedom." In it, he says that Grant's "predisposition to alcoholism may have made him a better general. His struggle for self-discipline enabled him to understand and discipline others; the humiliation of prewar failures gave him a quiet humility that was conspicuously absent from so many generals with a reputation to protect; because Grant had nowhere to go but up, he could act with more boldness and decision than commanders who dared not risk failure."

Basically, Grant was already dealing with so much disdain because of his alcoholism that he didn't care if he failed. This caused him to be more aggressive in battle than other generals were likely to be. Grant once cut himself off from everything but ammunition and medical supplies on purpose so he could attack Vicksburg. When the attack failed to take the city, Grant just turned the attack into a two-month siege (that ultimately succeeded). It should be noted, however, that Grant was absent for some of the siege since he was enjoying a two-day bender on the River Yazoo.

4. Samurai party so hard they don't realize they're under attack

Imagawa Yoshimoto, a powerful Japanese commander in 1560 with 35,000 soldiers, decided he wanted to try and take the capital of Japan at the time, Kyoto. On his way to Kyoto, Yoshimoto attempted to capture fortresses owned by Oda Nobunaga. Nobunaga was only able to raise 2,500 samurai to face the opposing force.

Nobunaga marched with his forces to a fortress near Okehazama, Japan. When Nobunaga saw Yoshimoto's forces drinking and partying, he ordered a small force to occupy the fortress and plant the flags of the army all around it. With the rest of his men, he slipped around the drunken samurai and approached from the rear.

Nobunaga's fought against 12 to 1 odds, but the victory was complete. [Yoshimoto reportedly left his tent to complain about the noise](#) before he realized he was hearing an attack, not the party. Yoshimoto wounded a single enemy soldier before he was killed. Nobunaga and his forces killed all but two of the senior officers before the remaining samurai fled or surrendered.

5. Ottoman sultan loses his entire navy for some casks of wine



Photo: Wikimedia Commons/Andrea Vicentino

Ottoman Sultan Selim II drank so much his nickname was, "The Sot." His love of wine is one of the most popular explanations for his invasion of Cyprus in 1570. Though the invasion went well at first, this play for the famed Cypriot wine would cost the sultan dearly.

As fortresses in Cyprus fell to Selim, Pope Pius V was trying to get European leaders to build a naval armada to attack the Ottomans. It took over a year for the countries to agree on the alliance's terms, but Europe created a massive naval fleet that confronted the Ottomans at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571. When the naval battle began, 300 Ottoman ships faced off against 200 Christian ships of greater quality. Historians believe 90 percent of ships in the Mediterranean at the time were involved in the battle.

Despite having roughly equal forces, the Christians stomped Selim so hard they made a profit. 12 European galleys were sunk, and 8,000 Christian fighters died. But, Christians liberated 15,000 slaves and captured 117 galleys. The Ottomans lost most of their Navy both in terms of ships and personnel. Selim II did still capture Cyprus with his armies and was able to drink its famed wines to his content, but it probably took a lot of drinking for him to forget what he paid for it.

6. Russian troops get bored before a battle and drink too much to fight

In "A History of Vodka," Vil'iam Vasil'evich Pokhlebkin details what Russian fighters drank while they waited for a small enemy force to arrive for a battle in 1377. It's mostly mead, ale, and beer.

While the exact numbers of troops on each side are no longer known, the armies of five Russian warlords were assembled at the river. But, they were so drunk that the Mongols of the Blue Horde just showed up and started slaughtering them. The supreme commander of the forces, Ivan Dmitriyevich, drowned along with some of his staff before the horde even made it to him.

The river's original name was lost to history because it became known as the River Pyana, meaning "drunken," after the defeat.

7. The Trojan Horse

Photo: Wikimedia Commons/Giovanni Domenico Tiepolo

It's definitely the best known of the entries on this list. The prince of Troy claimed a Greek king's wife as a prize owed to him by Aphrodite. The wife, Helen, agreed and was married, kicking off a war between the Greeks and the Trojans.

After nine years of war, a Greek general came up with a plan of faking a retreat and leaving an offering of a giant wooden horse. Greek soldiers hid out in the horse.

The horse was towed into the city and the Trojans began a night of epic celebrations.



They drank, sang, and feasted until they passed out. That's when Greek soldiers crept from the horse, opened the gates and slaughtered every Trojan they encountered.

~Internet

NEVARC Nets

40M Net

Monday, Wednesday and Fridays
10am Local time (East coast)

7.095 MHz LSB

Hosted by Ron VK3AHR
Using club call VK3ANE

80M Net

Wednesday 20:30 Local time

3.622 MHz LSB

Hosted by Ron VK3AHR
Using the club call VK3ANE

2M Nets

Monday at 2000 local time on
VK3RWO repeater
146.975 MHz

Fascinating Email Facts and Statistics



The first email system was developed in 1971.

Each day, the average office worker receives 121 emails and sends out 40.

Eighty-six percent of professionals name email as their favourite mode of communication.

Sixty-six percent of email is read on mobile devices.

Percentage of email that is considered spam: 49.7.

Percentage of emails that have a malicious attachment: 2.3.

The top countries for generating spam are the United States, China, and Russia.

Belarus generates the most spam per capita.

The open rate for email sent in North America is 34.1 percent.

The mobile click-to-open rate for U.S. marketing email is 13.7 percent.

The desktop click-to-open rate for U.S. marketing email is 18 percent.

The average open rate for political emails is 22.8 percent.

The average length of subject line for the highest read rate is 61 to 70 characters.

The top day for email volume is Cyber Monday.

Groupon sends the most email per user.

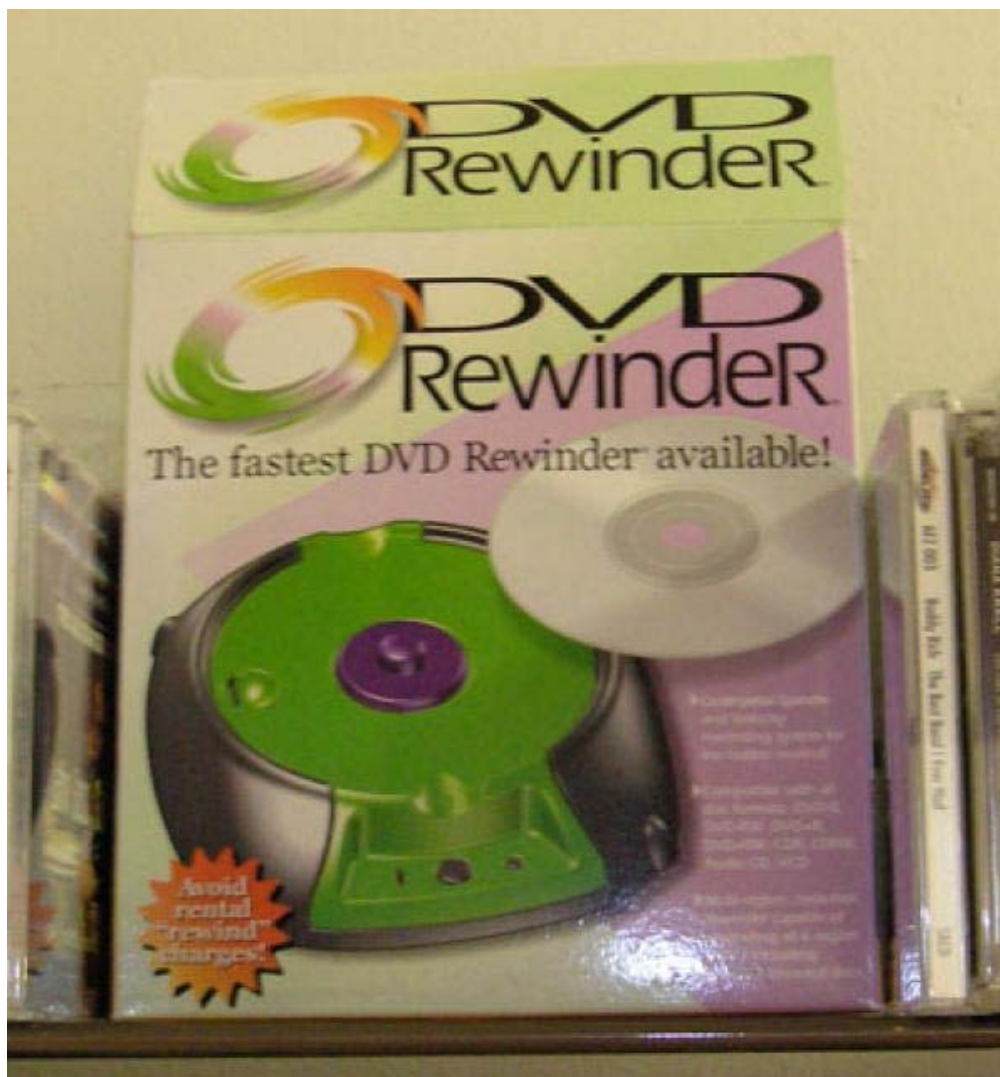
Thirty-three percent of mobile users say they've read an email based on its subject line.

The iPhone is the most popular mobile device for email opens.

The percentage of users who made purchases based upon emails received on their mobile devices is 6.1.

Tuesday is the best day to send an email because more emails are opened on Tuesday than on any other day of the week.

But why...?



President, VK2VU, Gary
Vice President, Vacant
Secretary, VK2FKLR, Kathleen
Treasurer, Amy



NEVARC CLUB PROFILE

History

The North East Victoria Amateur Radio Club (NEVARC) formed in 2014.
As of the 7th August 2014, Incorporated, Registered Incorporation number A0061589C.
NEVARC is an affiliated club of the Wireless Institute of Australia.

Meetings

Meetings details are on the club website, the Second Sunday of every month, check for latest scheduled details.
Meetings held at the Belviour Guides Hall, 6 Silva Drive West Wodonga.
Meetings commence with a BBQ (with a donation tin for meat) at 12pm with meeting afterwards.
Members are encouraged to turn up a little earlier for clubroom maintenance.
Call in Via VK3RWO, 146.975, 123 Hz tone.

VK3ANE NETS

HF

7.095 MHz Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 10am Local time
3.622 MHz Wednesday - 8.30pm Local time

VHF

VK3RWO Repeater 146.975 MHz – Monday - 8pm Local time
All nets are hosted by Ron Hanel VK3AHR using the club callsign VK3ANE

Benefits

To provide the opportunity for Amateur Radio Operators and Short Wave Listeners to enhance their hobby through interaction with other Amateur Radio Operators and Short Wave Listeners. Free technology and related presentations, sponsored construction activities, discounted (and sometimes free) equipment, network of likeminded radio and electronics enthusiasts. Excellent club facilities and environment, ample car parking.

Website: www.nevarc.org.au

Postal: NEVARC Secretary
PO Box 69
Wahgunyah Vic 3683

All editors' comments and other opinions in submitted articles may not always represent the opinions of the committee or the members of NEVARC, but published in spirit, to promote interest and active discussion on club activities and the promotion of Amateur Radio. Contributions to NEVARC News are always welcome from members.

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Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope if you require your submission notes returned.

Email attachments not to exceed 5 Mb in file size. If you have more than 5 Mb, then send it split, in several emails to us.

Attachments of (or thought to be) executable code or virulently affected emails will not be opened.

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While we strive to be accurate, no responsibility taken for errors, omissions, or other perceived deficiencies, in respect of information contained in technical or other articles.

Any dates, times and locations given for upcoming events please check with a reliable source closer to the event.

This is particularly true for pre-planned outdoor activities affected by adverse weather etc.

The club website <http://nevarc.org.au> has current information on planned events and scheduled meeting dates.

You can get the WIA News sent to your inbox each week by simply clicking a link and entering your email address found at www.wia.org.au The links for either text email or MP3 voice files are there as well as Podcasts and Twitter. This WIA service is FREE.